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ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: METHOD FOR THE NON-INVASIVE DETECTION OF MICROORGANISMS IN A CLOSED CONTAINER

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for detecting a contamination with a microorganism in a closed container, in which an extracellular enzyme of the microorganism is detected. The method can very suitably be carried out by providing a substrate for this enzyme to the contents of the container and detecting the conversion of this substrate by this enzyme. An embodiment of an apparatus according to the invention is shown in, which shows a container (1) for, for instance, sterile tissue culture of plants (2). The container is provided with a growth medium (3) which comprises a substrate for a microbial extracellular enzyme and with optical sensors (4) which can be read by means of an optical measuring device (5). An alternative embodiment is shown which shows a sterile package for, for instance, medical aids (2). The package forms a closed container (1) whose wall is provided with an indicator (3) which can be visually read.



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